FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 DECEMBER 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian Defense Minister Mohammad Jalali, noting Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's "last-ditch effort" to find an "escape route," said that Iran's forces will give him the "appropriate answer in the near future," Tehran radio reported. The minister revealed that the just-concluded 8-day seminar of military leaders made the "appropriate decisions" on the war. Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni urged military representatives in a speech broadcast by Tehran radio to maintain their unity, emphasizing that the various branches of the military are equal. Advising them to ignore past criticism by "hypocrites," Khomeyni declared that no one can "influence or weaken" the military's status. He assured the armed forces leaders that the entire nation supports them.

In other war developments, the Iraqi Air Force commander, in an interview with *AL-QADISIYAH* cited by INA, disclosed that Iraq will use new weapons which will "surprise the Iranian regime and the entire world," adding that the air force will be decisive in any future ground battle. Meanwhile Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, who is touring several Middle East countries, told KUNA that the PRC has not provided Iran or Iraq with weapons, adding that his country has maintained neutrality since the beginning of the war.

PLO-Syrian Relations

Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf revealed to the UAE paper *AL-KHALIJ* that "direct contacts" are taking place between the PLO leadership and the Syrian Government in an effort to eliminate differences. He asserted that reconciliation of the various Palestinian factions will be achieved through the "Palestinian-Syrian rapprochement."

Iraq

Although the improvement in Jordanian-Syrian relations has had "no negative impact" on Jordanian-Iraqi relations, the Arab reconciliation team has achieved nothing toward reconciling Iraq and Syria, First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan revealed in an interview with the *JORDAN TIMES*.

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has "shelved" the idea of another round of talks with Egypt over the Tabah and related issues, *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported, noting that Peres is trying to reach an agreement through direct contacts with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and that he has asked Mubarak for more clarifications of the Egyptian position. The Jerusalem paper added that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who reportedly favors further talks, told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Egypt and Israel "remain far apart on the main questions" in the Tabah dispute.

Lebanon

The kidnappers of four Frenchmen are reportedly calling for the release of the individuals accused of attempting to assassinate former Iranian Foreign Minister Shahpu Bakhtiar, Paris radio reported. In a related development, a statement by the "Organization of the Oppressed on Earth" reported by Radio Monte Carlo announced that one of the four hostage Lebanese Jews was killed in retaliation for Israeli actions in southern Lebanon. Beirut radio reported that internal security forces discovered a body that "could be" that of one ofthe four kidnapped Jews.

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'Summary' of Karmal Address to Party Activists

LD222257 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1630 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Announcer-read "summary" of speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, at a meeting of party activists of the DRA Ministry of Internal Affairs — date not specified]

[Excerpts] Dear comrades: On behalf of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau, the Revolutionary Council, and the country's government, I greet the participants in the activists' session whose objective is to discuss the very important present issues.

On the basis of profound analysis of fact and developments, the 16th plenum called on party members and all patriots to intensify their work for the consolidation and broadening of the social pillars of revolutionary sovereignty, and to achieve, together with the unity and cooperation of all patriotic forces, peace and calm in their country.

As we have stated in the ten theses, the credible and nonparty representatives of the clergy, the industrial and commercial capitalists, the credible leaders of the nationalities, tribes, and clans of the country will be attracted to the adminsitration of government affairs.

We will begin to realize this policy in the near future. All the people must realistically realize and perceive that the government and power belong to the people themselves.

Among the immediate duties facing us are the completion of the Army, strengthening of the borders, and further attracting the nationalities and tribes to the task of defending the homeland. These tasks have particular importance.

In particular I want to point out that the plenum was convened in an atmosphere of unanimity of views. The party unity of the members of the Central Committee, in particular their profound support for the report and solution of the organizational issues, was displayed.

The basic statement, which was presented by Comrade Gulabzoy, contained good information about the gains and the following measures. [sentence as heard]

On behalf of the Political Bureau, the Revolutionary Council, and the government I announce that the Sarandoy, who sprang from among the masses of the people, are serving the revolution and the people of Afghanistan heroically, with courage, and with self-sacrifice.

Our revolutionary experience has proven that the Army, the Sarandoy, and the state information service, are three inseparable brothers. Together they form the united Armed Forces of the DRA.

In the current year, the Sarandoy and their brothers have accomplished noticeable combat operations.

The Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, and the government direct your attention to the solution of the following issues:

The first and very important issue is the active and distinguished participation of Sarandoy in the task of covering the country's borders. In this respect we have many tasks before us. We must strengthen the (?ranks of) of the Sarandoy force and we should speed up the work for the completion of its ranks.

We should forge ahead in the serious work of a census of the country's inhabitants, giving them identification documents and creating regions which enjoy special order.

The inhabitants of border regions, youth and pioneers, must accomplish the construction and fortification of trenches and other defensive installations. Safeguarding the borders is the task of all the people and the party.

Execution of the second task is under way at this very moment, that is, to hand over the duty of safeguarding economic installations from the Army to the Sarandoy; that is to say, the Army units must be spared the duties which do not belong to them and they should be reserved for their main duty, that is, combat duty.

In this respect the armed civilian contingents and above all the revolution defense groups, can play a noticeable role in this task.

The Sarandoy men should not think that by such changes they will be engaged in secondary work. In fact, the task of safeguarding the government's wealth will be allotted to the Sarandoy. They should be proud of such a duty and such a formidable trust.

You, the leadership cadres and political workers, must inject such a spirit into the body of each Sarandoy.

The third issue is the role of the Sarandoy in broadening the social pillars of revolutionary sovereignty. You have vast possibilities for the execution of this task. You and your colleagues — as the competent representatives of the government authority — are in contact with the broad masses of the people in the cities and villages. The question is how the Sarandoy treat the people. Sarandoy personnel could have carried out many tasks for the broadening and consolidation of revolutionary sovereignty in rural regions, work with traders and private investors, clergy and chiefs of the nationalities and tribes. Our cadres must learn such an ability.

(?Realization) of this task, that within a short time the [word indistinct] of Sarandoy will be created in each district, will seriously consolidate the revolutionary sovereignty. The Sarandoy are closer to the people than anyone else.

The fourth issue is the proper realization of policy regarding the cadres and the consolidation of discipline. Here I want to mention that the selection of leadership cadres should not take place on the basis of friendship, love of tribe, [word indistinct] and unprincipled methods, but it should be based on party principles. In the selection of personnel [word indistinct] must be seriously observed.

I do not think there is any barrier to establishing close contacts between the personnel of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and party committees. If such a (?things happens) this, of course, will help the Sarandoy in the successful execution of their duties.

Examples of leadership personnel being removed from duty due to transgression and serious mistakes and later being appointed to higher positions must be urgently ended.

The fifth issue is the serious need to fundamentally improve party and political work with the officers, soldiers, and all the men of the Sarandoy. The resolutions of the Political Bureau and 16th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee provide for the continuation of this struggle. Tnis is seriously demanded by the difficult political and military situation of the country. Most of the officers are not familiar with the documents of the Central Committee and it is natural that they therefore cannot explain the nature of the policy of the PDPA to their men.

Political training, training in the spirit of patriotism and love of the homeland, and our internationalist spirit are at a low level.

The eradication of illiterary is also one of the serious issues. Only one-fifth of those enrolled in the campaign against illiteracy have received a certificate from this course. I must mention that those who work under the flag of Sarandoy must be literate, cultured and have political awareness. This is the law of Sarandoy.

In conclusion, I want to mention the best personnel of Sarandoy who, by their competent work and their heroism, kept the flag of Sarandoy flying.

I could have mentioned the names of hundreds of heroic girls and boys of Sarandoy and the defenders of our revolution and homeland who, in very hard times, do not refuse any self-sacrifice for the blossoming and defense of the homeland. Our just revolutionary combat is continuing. Our struggle is for the freedom of the toiling people. The martyrdom of our friends and comrades in the struggle is painful for their relatives and the motherland. We will observe a minute of silence for these martyrs and express to them the great word of thanks on behalf of their homeland and their party.

In his speech at the 16th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, Comrade Gulabzoy, on your behalf, gave an assurance of the honest implementation of the resolutions of the 16th plenum to the Political Bureau and the Central Committee that he will honestly implement the resolutions and decisions of the plenum.

By participating in the work of your activist session, I am assured that you are actively and seriously taking part in the implementation of the new tasks.

Heroic comrades of Sarandoy, let us declare before our people that we will expand the positive aspect of our work more than ever and root out the negative aspect of our work on the basis of the new situation, our policy and new tasks which are specified in [word indistinct] ten theses, the statement of the Revolutionary Council, and the resolutions of the 16th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, [word indistinct] methods, style and new principle.

We should transform our talks into a live action for the broadening of the social pillars of the revolution, in a specific way and in an understanding manner for all, on the process of a revolutionary resurrection. Speed up the process of the national and democratic growth and fulfill the most important and most vital duties of the revolutionary and the patriot in two stages over 2-4 months by accepting all kinds of heroism, dedication, and sacrifices. Let us announce with pride to the people of the world that the revolutionary sovereignty of the toiling and free people of Afghanistan is settled all over our country, in the great majority of the villages and all the districts, and that the situation in the country is normal. Peace and security and peaceful work are secured and the borders of the country are closed forever to the counterrevolutionary elements from abroad.

Allow me to wish you great victories in implementing the resolutions of the 16th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee.

Karmal Receives UK Friendship Delegation

LD230358 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, yesterday afternoon met the delegation of the Great Britain-Afghanistan Friendship Society headed by Ron Brown, member of the presidium of that society and Labor Party member of Parliament, which is on a friendly, official visit to our revolutionary country.

A BIA correspondent reports that during the meeting Babrak Karmal spoke on the subjects of interest in a friendly climate, and shed light on the great results of the April Revolution in the interest of the country's people.

Talks With Pakistan To Resume in March in Geneva

LD231932 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Shah Muhammad Dost, the minister of foreign affairs, who headed a delegation to Geneva to conduct talks with the Pakistani side under the auspices of the UN secretary general, returned home this afternoon. He was welcomed at Kabul airport by Muhammad Khan Jalalar, the minister of commerce, some high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and by the minister-counselor of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

The talks are due to be resumed at the beginning of March next yearin Geneva.

Commerce Minister Discusses PRC Trade Growth

BK221626 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 22 Dec 85

[Text] China has assured all possible cooperation and help to Bangladesh to accelerate the process of industrialization and improve its export trade. The assurance was given by the Chinese leaders to the commerce minister, Kazi Zafar Ahmed, during his recent visit. The commerce minister returned to Dhaka on Friday last after signing the ninth barter protocol with China. Some new commodities like tobacco, tea, wood (?pipes), jute carpets and electrical cables have been included in the export list of Bangladesh.

The commerce [minister] told a news conference in Dhaka that the new barter protocol was the first step in developing balanced trade between the two countries. He said China also expressed its willingness to put up joint venture industries in Bangladesh to help improve its volume of exports.

PRC'S Wu Xueqian Arrives in Dhaka, Discusses Visit

HK240940 Hong Kong AFP in English 0916 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 24 (AFP) — Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian arrived here today on a three-day official visit which he said would "further enhance" bilateral relations.

Mr Wu is the first Chinese foreign minister to visit Bangladesh. He heads an eight-member entourage which includes other top officials.

The Chinese delegation arrived here after a tour of the Middle East and were met by Bangladesh Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury.

Mr Wu said that during his visit he would "review progress in bilateral relations and cooperation" with Mr Chowdhury. He added that the discussions would be "useful for both of us" and would "further enhance" bilateral relations.

Mr Wu said the two countries already had an extensive network of agreements and suggested the setting up of "working groups" to study their implementation.

Observers here said bilateral relations between Dhaka and Beijing had grown steadily since 1975 when they established diplomatic ties.

China has so far committed 100 million dollars in grants, projects and commodity assistance to Bangladesh, according to official figures available here.

Projects already outlined under the loan agreement include a bridge across the river Buriganga near Dhaka, the construction of a textile mill in the southwest of the country and a fertilizer factory.

Officials here said China was also participating in a major water conservancy project in the north by giving financial and technical assistance.

President Hussain Mohammad Ershad visited China in June and Beijing offered a 35-million-dollar loan for private industrial development.

The two countries early this month signed a ninth barter trade protocol which will raise bilateral commerce to 87 million dollars for next year.

Informed sources said China also recently provided Bangladesh with a naval vessel and modified MiG-19 fighter planes, besides spares and light arms.

ROK Deputy Premier Arrives for Cooperation Talks

BK201219 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 0635 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Formal talks on increased economic cooperation between Bangladesh and South Korea begin in Dhaka today. South Korean Deputy Prime Minister Sin Pyong-hyan will lead his delegation at the talks, while the Bangladesh side will be headed by Planning Minister Sultan Ahmed Chowdhury. During the talks, both sides will explore the possibilities of increasing bilateral trade. After arriving in Dhaka yesterday, the South Korean deputy prime minister stressed the need for economic cooperation and increasing the volume of trade between the two countries. He said that his delegation includes a group of businessmen and industrialists and they will hold talks with local entrepreneurs on trade cooperation and joint investment.

Meets With President

BK220809 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Dec 85

[Text] The South Korean deputy prime minister, Mr Sin Pyong-hyan, who is also his country's minister for economic planning, called on President Ershad at Banga Bhavan [president's house] in Dhaka this morning. During the meeting the president expressed confidence that the existing ties of friendship and cooperation between Bangladesh and South Korea will be further strengthened in the coming days. Recalling his recent visit to South Korea he said cooperation between the countries, especially in science and technology, will be of immense benefit for the people. The South Korean deputy prime minister expressed the willingness of his country to increase trade with Bangladesh. He said South Korea is ready to import more jute goods from Bangladesh.

During a meeting with the finance adviser, Mr Syeduzzaman, the South Korean deputy prime minister discussed economic cooperation and trade relations between his country and Bangladesh. At the end of the meeting official sources said possibilities of South Korean assistance in improving capacity utilization of some of our capital goods and heavy industries and credit from South Korean financial institutions for Bangladesh were discussed. The two leaders also decided on steps to narrow the adverse balance of trade against Bangladesh.

Bangladesh and South Korea have signed an agreed minute underlining the desire of the two governments for fruitful and

economic trade and technical cooperation. The agreed minute was signed by the representatives of the two governments following 2 days of talks in Dhaka today. In the agreed minute, the two sides felt the need for having a joint economic commission to review the progress of overall cooperation between the two countries in various fields and to identify new areas of collaboration. The Bangladesh proposal for joint ventures were in such fields like manufacturing of railway carriages and wagons at Chittagong dry dock, manufacturing of electronic components, transformers, circuit breakers, switch gears, etc., establishment of [word indistinct] textile mills providing support to government sector. Besides, in the private sector manufacturing, Bangladesh suggested joint ventures in production of motorcycles, tyres and tubes, specialized papers, finished leather and leather products, synthetic yarn and fabric, glass sheet and small tools. The two countries have agreed to make every effort to diversify and balance their bilateral trade. They recognized the necessity to expand bilateral trade and economic cooperation in the spirit of South-South cooperation.

The decision was taken at the first joint meeting of the South Korea-Bangladesh Economic Cooperation Committee in Dhaka today. The joint meeting was held under the auspices of the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Announces Joint Economic Commission

HK220820 Hong Kong AFP in English 0633 GMT 22 Dec 85

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 22 (AFP) — Bangladesh and South Korea are to establish a joint economic commission to review the progress of cooperation and identify new areas for collaboration, a senior South Korean Minister said here today.

Deputy Prime Minister Sin Pyong-hyan told reporters that the commission would be set up soon, adding that during his three-day visit here he had had fruitful talks with the Bangladesh Government.

Mr Sin, who is also his country's minister for planning, was leading a 24-member economic mission aimed at exploring the scope of bilateral economic, trade and industrial cooperation.

The two sides yesterday signed an agreement between the Chambers of Commerce and industry of the two states to promote economic, trade and industrial cooperation.

Bangladesh proposed joint venture projects in such fields as railway carriage manufacture, electrical and electronic components, textiles, synthetic yarn and fabrics, and motorcycles, and asked for a reduction in the current trade gap.

The balance of trade between the two countries has been heavily in favour of Seoul. In fiscal 1984-85, South Korean exports to Bangladesh totalled 50 million dollars, while imports reached only 2.06 million.

Mr Sin left here today for Pakistan.

Restrictions on Trade Unions To Be Lifted 1 Jan

BK220328 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 21 Dec 85

[Text] The government has decided to withdraw the ban on trade union activities from the first of next month. This was announced by the minister for labor and manpower, Mr M. Korban Ali, in Dhaka tonight. He said the government expects firmly that the trade union activities will be conducted in accordance with the labor laws for the sake of peace in the industrial field, protection of interest of the workers, and uninterrupted production in industries. The minister told BSS that the government hopes all the labor organizations will extend all-out cooperation to achieve the objective.

Press Note Issued on Strike by Officials, Doctors

BK230938 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 0100 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Excerpts] The government has asked officials and doctors not to stay away from work and to serve the people in the greater national interest. A press note issued last night said that the government notes iwth concern that certain officials have stayed away from their jobs. The government has been taking steps to remove the grievances of its employees. Indeed, only a few days ago, their salaries were increased considerably. A cabinet committee is working to remove discrepancies in their wage scales.

The press note said that as a result of abstention from duties by the doctors, innocent patients in hospitals have been suffering. In view of actions already taken and those now being taken, the government expects all officials to continue to serve the people and not stay away from their duties.

GDR Official Arrives for Congress Anniversary

BK211710 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 21 Dec 85

[Text] The secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany arrived in New Delhi today to participate in the centenary celebrations of the Indian National Congress in Bombay. He said he is carrying a personal message of the chairman, Mr Erich Honecker, for the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, who is also the Congress-I president.

Memorandum of Understanding Signed with Ethiopia

BK221432 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 22 Dec 85

[Text] A memorandum of understanding on mutual cooperation in the economic field was signed between India and Ethiopia in New Delhi today. It was signed by the minister of external affairs, Mr B.R. Bhagat, and the Ethiopian minister of foreign affairs, Mr Goshu Wolde.

The memorandum identifies 12 sectors as priority areas for bilateral cooperation, inlcuding agricultural research and development, industrial and financial cooperation, promotion of small-scale industries, development of railways and maritime transport, cooperation in science and technology and trade relations.

In the industrial field, India will assist in the field of sugar, textiles, bicycles and motorized two-wheelers and industrial estates. The National Small Industries Corporation will hold an exhibition in Addis Ababa of small-scale industrial equipment next year. There will also be further collaborations in the field of railways and maritime transport.

India will offer 50 training places every year under the technical and economic cooperation program and will also undertake five techno-economic surveys in mutually agreed fields. India will also provide instructors and teaching materials to the Institute of Geology and Mining in Ethiopia.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr B.R. Bhagat said that the memorandum of undetstanding encompasses a wide range of economic cooperation between the two countries. Mr Goshu Wolde said that the memorandum will lay a solid foundation of cordial and friendly relations between the two countries.

Bharatiya Congress Unit Members To Join Congress-I

BK231322 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] The Bombay regional committee of the Bharatiya Congress led by the former chief minister, Mr A.R. Antulay, has been dissolved. All the members of the Bombay unit are to join the Congress-I on Wednesday [25 December]. This was announced by the president of the regional committee, Mr Bhaorao Patel, in Bombay today.

New Assam Leader Lists Priorities of Government

BK211625 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 21 Dec 85

[Excerpts] All the 125 results of the Assam assembly elections have come in. The Asom Gana Parishad [AGP] which has secured an asolute majority has increased its tally to 64. The final party position is: AGP 64; Congress-I 25; United Minorities Front 17; Congress-S 4; Plains Tribal Council of Assam 3; CPI-M 2; Independents and others 10. One of the independents is supported by the AGP. Two of the three results announced today went to the Congress-I.

The outgoing chief minister, Mr Hiteswar Saikia, today pledged his party's support to the new ministry to be formed in the state. In a statement in Guwahati this evening, Mr Saikia said he and his colleagues in the caretaker ministry were eagerly looking forward to handing over charge to the new ministry in accordance with the verdict of the people.

The AGP general secretary, Mr Bhrigu Kumar Phukan, said in Guwahati that his party will accord the topmost priority to rooting out corruption. He said his party is determined to provide a clean and efficient administration in the state.

Afghan Allegation of Airspace Violation Rejected

BK231558 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Pakistan has rejected yesterday's allegation by the Karmal administration that Pakistan's helicopters and planes violated Afghan airspace in Konarha Province on 11, 12, 13, and 14 December. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office in Islamabad this afternoon and apprised of the rejection of this allegation. The charge d'affaires was asked to tell the Kabul administration to desist from making such baseless allegations.

Cabinet Considers Steps for Lifting Martial Law

BK231625 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] The federal cabinet has approved the national hajj policy for 1986. The minister of state for religious affairs, Maqbul Ahmed Khan, will make a formal announcement on this issue.

The cabinet also discussed various arrangements to be made in connection with the lifting of martial law along with a draft program of various events to be held on that day. The cabinet meeting was presided over by Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and was attended by federal ministers and ministers of state.

Saudi Prince Arrives in Karachi From Dhaka

BK201705 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 20 Dec 85

[Text] The Saudi minister of defense and aviation, Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, was accorded a warm welcome when he arrived in Karachi from Dhaka this afternoon on a day's visit. He was received at the airport by Sind Governor Lieutenant General Jahandad Khan, provincial ministers, the Saudi ambassador and high civil and military officials. Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz will leave for Saudi Arabia tomorrow afternoon.

Leaves Karachi for Home

BK211109 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 21 Dec 85

[Text] The defense and aviation minister of Saudi Arabia, Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, left Karachi for home today after a day's stay in (?the city). He was seen off at the airport among others by the Sind governor, Lieutenant General Jahandad Khan, provincial ministers, and senior civil and military officials. Ambassador of Saudi Arabia in Pakistan, Mr Tawfiq al-Alamdar, and Saudi consul general were also present on the occasion.

ROK Deputy Minister, Delegation Arrive 22 Dec

BK221712 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 22 Dec 85

[Text] A high-level delegation of the Republic of Korea — led by the deputy prime minister and the foreign minister for economic planning, Mr Sin Pyong-hyan — has arrived in Islamabad this evening on a 3-day visit to Pakistan.

Speaking to newsmen at the airport, Mr Sin said there are bright prospects for close economic cooperation between Pakistan and the Republic of Korea in the years to come, and he said more joint ventures will be set up in the private sectors of the two countries. He said the main objective of his visit is to expedite matters pertaining to the meeting of President Ziaul Haq with the president of Korea and to take concrete steps for cooperation for mutual benefits.

Federal Finance Minister Dr Mahbubul Haq received the distinguished guest at the airport. He said the Republic of Korea has already completed (?formalities for import of) Pakistani carpets.

Minister Meets With Ziaul Haq, Junejo

BK240229 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] The visiting deputy prime minister and minister for economic planning of the Republic of Korea, Mr Sin Pyong-Hyan, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi last evening. He conveyed personal greetings from the ROK president and expressed satisfaction with his talks in Pakistan on the promotion of economic cooperation and joint ventures. Later, the president hosted a reception in honor of Mr Sin Pyong-hyan and his delegation. The ROK deputy prime minister is leaving for Karachi today where he will address the joint Pakistan-Korea trade committee.

The ROK deputy prime minister also called on Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interest. The prime minister said the notable progress made by the Republic of Korea is praiseworthy. The ROK deputy prime minister praised recent political events and economic progress in Pakistan.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene, Premadasa Speak on Terrorism

BK211309 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 21 Dec 85

[Excerpts] President J.R. Jayewardene said that although he belives in democracy, he is not prepared to give in to the gun and the bullet. The president was speaking at the 31st annual session of the United National Party at the (Supabasaso) indoor stadium this morning. Addressing the party representatives from various parts of the country, Mr Jayewardene said that terrorism is a worldwide problem today. Terrorism in Sri Lanka cannot be defined as the question of minority community. There are Tamils serving in the upper echelons of the judiciary, the department of the attorney general, and the police. Minority communities are well represented both in the parliament and cabinet. If this is the real situation, the president asked, what is the problem minorities have to complain about?

Referring to the Indian connection, the president said that there are 50 million Tamils living in south India. He pointed out that petty politicians there are trying to provoke people using the Tamil question in Sri Lanka. In this context, the central government of India has to deal very carefully with the situation. Mr Jayewardene also said that a committee was appointed at the recent summit meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation to look into the ways and means against terrorism.

Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister R. Premadasa called upon the people to come forward to eradicate both terrorism and the drug menace. The prime minister explained the interconnection between the international terrorists and drug trafficking ring. Terrorist movements are being used to destabilize sovereign countries in the world. In turn, terrorist organizations used drug trafficking as their principal source of finance. Therefore, the prime minister asserted, all nations who oppose terrorism should unite in the fight against international terrorism and the drug menace. Mr Premadasa added that the amalgamation of the north and east would pose a threat not only to the sovereignty of Sri Lanka, but also to the sovereignty of India. The resolution moved by the prime minister calling the people to come forward to eradicate terrorism and drug menace was supported by the district minister for Anuradhapura, Chandra Bandara.

Addressing the session, the minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, rejected the proposal made by the Tamil United Liberation Front — TULF — for the amalgamation of the northern and eastern provinces. He pointed out that both Sinhala and Muslim communities are opposed to such a move. Even certain sections of the Tamil community also rejected this idea. The minister said that the government is not prepared to create a tense situation among the Muslims by a merger of the two provinces. Describing the TULF as a cowardly organization, Mr Athulathmudali said that after the killing of two former TULF MP's, the others are now trying to save their necks. Tamil people who earlier supported the terrorists are now realizing the danger they are faced with. The terrorists have also realized the futility of their efforts. Mr Athulathmudali noted that the most difficult period in the struggle against terrorism was over, but many more things have to be done to achieve the final victory. The minister asserted that the ultimate solution to the problem should be a political one.

At today's session, Mr Harsha Abeywardena was unanimously reelected chairman of the United National Party. The president, prime minister, and the cabinet ministers were received by the minister of sports and parliamentary affairs, Vincent Perera, and the district minister for Colombo, Weerasinghe Mallimarachi at the indoor stadium.

Government Denies Responsibility for India Bombing

HK240646 Hong Kong AFP in English 0631 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Colombo, Dec 24 [AFP] — The Sri Lanka Government today dismissed as absurd an allegation by a militant Tamil separatist leader that a bomb explosion at his southern India home yesterday was the work of Colombo agents.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali dismissed as "laughable" the allegation by Anton Balasingham, official spokesman of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

(Mr Balasingham, his wife and nephew, escaped unhurt yesterday when a powerful bomb damaged his home in the southern Indian city of Madras, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said in New Delhi. It quoted Mr Balasingham as saying that he had recently informed police in Tamil Nadu State about an alleged Colombo plan to kill top separatist Tamil leaders.)

The Colombo Government had no reason to kill Mr Balasingham, who was only a spokesman, Mr Athulathmudali told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

"I could have understood if somebody said we tried to kill (LTTE leader) Prabhakaran," he added, because he was the military leader and was wanted for several killings and attacks on security forces.

Mr Athulathmudali said that information available to him was that the bomb attack was the result of rivalry between Madras-based separatist groups.

A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamils have been waging a frequently violent campaign for greater autonomy in the north and east. Many separatist groups are based in Madras.

Meanwhile, five militants were killed in eastern Ampara District Sunday when they fired on security forces carrying out a roundup of separatist suspects, security sources said.

Military Representatives Conclude 8-Day Seminar

Khomeyni Addresses Representatives

LD231335 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Fifteen-minute address by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to military representatives at the end of an 8-day seminar on 23 December; place not given]

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the chief of the Joint Staff, the imam's second representative on the Supreme Defence Council, together with the commanders of the three forces, as well as the officials in charge of the Islamic Republic Army's political-ideological sections, and a number of ground forces commanders were received by Imam Khomeyni today at the end of their 8-day seminar.

The meeting began with reports by the chief of the Joint Staff and the commander of the land forces on the objective of the land forces commanders' seminar, explaining and announcing the readiness of the Islamic Republic's Army to continue the war until the roots of aggression are eradicated and the Islamic forces achieve final victory. Then the imam of the ummah made the following speech:

[Begin Khomeyni recording] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. I express my gratitude to you gentlemen and the clerics and other gentlemen for attending a meeting that is considered to be a spiritual one. Everyone is saying that all those who are engaged in this war, all the people living in Iran, live under an entirely different condition, as compared to the past.

There was a time when our young men, even if they wished to do something, would go to the beaches, whereas you can see for yourselves how they are behaving now. This is one of the blessings granted this nation. One must be thankful for it. We are inconsequential as individuals; we must remember that everything comes from God.

I recall my own experience during the long period of time when I was engaged in carrying out a task, a task that was my duty; but I had to withdraw from it. I feel that there were a great many issues that were being settled without my realizing it, without us having made any plans for them; it was actually God's guidance. As for now, God's favor embraces you and the entire nation. You, being this nation's strength, this Islamic Republic's servant, you who are safeguarding the Islamic Republic, you who are protecting this country in the battlefronts are more favored by God. What you are doing there is similar to our long worship here. Rest assured that when you take one single step for the sake of God Almighty, then God Almighty, considering his kindness, increases his favor. Rest assured that you shall enjoy permanence. The Army must rest assured of its permanence. It is our duty to support the Army; it is our divine duty. I assure you we will support you.

In those days, when the hypocrites [monafeqin] planned to remove the Army and were saying that the Armed Forces were such and such. Even during those days I believed that we must safeguard the Army. It is even more so now, for the time span was shorter in those days, whereas now we have put those days behind; now a transformation has taken place. I can see things in your faces today which were absent in those days. Your situation has totally changed today; you must confidently continue your service. No one can influence or weaken your status; the nation is behind you; everyone supports you. You too must be on the nation's side, which is the case as it is, thank God.

When a nation staged an uprising, the uprising encompassed everyone, the Army, the Armed Forces — mobilization with all its power. It encompassed the nation, the clerics, the shopkeepers, the workers. Considering such a united nation, then one must say that no one is able to oppose you. The United States knows this, the USSR knows this. They realize that when they try to defeat a nation they can only do so where and on a front where the nation fails in its support. A cohesive and united community cannot be defeated. Therefore, try to maintain your unity; try to remain a single arm, not two, but one. You must not imagine that the corps enjoys a different situation from yours; no, all of you live under the same condition. Both of you should have the same identical tactic, that of safeguarding Islam.

Think of the early Islamic era. Remember the suffering they tolerated; a small number vis-a-vis a great number. Remember their suffering, remember the prophet's suffering as well as the suffering of those who came later. They suffered, but they safeguarded Islam.

Today you have a national duty toward your homeland, then you have an Islamic duty toward the protection of Islam. Islam is entrustedto you. Today, the entire world's attention is focused on Iran, wondering what this people has in mind. They are wondering what these 40 million people, living in this corner of the world, are trying to achieve. China with its 1.1 billion population is wondering what we are trying to do; the same with the USSR and more so with the United States. Everyone is wondering what this rather small population, living in this corner of the world, and causing some clamor, is trying to do and how its message reverberates throughout the world. The thing is that they do not understand Islam; they do not understand spirituality. All their calculations are based on how many tanks they have or how many tanks we have. Obviously, when we make the same calculations, then I must say that we have nothing, compared to the United States and the USSR, if these are the calculations. This is not what is important, however; the important thing is that you raised your voice and moved the world. Nowadays, wherever one goes, one notices the attention directed toward Iran; they are even more informed than we, who live here. This is because we are dealing with a spiritual issue; it is not that we want to wage a war or want to defend. We intend to wage a holy defense, that is, we want to defend the prestige of Islam, the prestige of an Islamic country.

This is a defense approved by both wisdom and Islam; everyone says we must defend. At present, your country is the target of a criminal's greed; this criminal has been encouraged to resort to this act. He would have been eliminated had it not been for others' support. However, he is being encouraged, although this is being weakened now, because they [Husayn's supporters] are becoming despondent. You must remember that today your

enemy is desperate, whereas you are strong. The essential issue, however, is that they should make a decision and act accordingly. Your task has been defined by law and Islam. You must act upon it. This task would increase your prestige, your reputation; as a result, your country's prestige will be enhanced.

Look at the difference in your country between now and the past. In the past, everything evolved around issues such as bringing advisers to do certain things. Our factories used to be controlled by them; everything, including our Army, used to be controlled by them. Today, thank God, you control everything. You are standing on your own feet against the United States, the USSR, and in other places in the world, saying we have nothing to do with anyone. They cannot and will not interfere. It is neither in their military nor their political interest. They cannot do it. In order to be able to resist, however, to safeguard this country — in order to defend and safeguard your national and Islamic prestige — it is necessary for you to maintain your unity. You must do away with the thought that: I am a military man, therefore I should enjoy this; or I am a corpsman, therefore I should enjoy that; or I am a member of the mobilisation, therefore I should enjoy such or such. All of you are equal and come under the might of Islam, under your own national power. Once you accept that all are equal, then all these claims will be done with. Everyone is cooperating. Thank God, as I understand, all of you are now united; all the forces enjoy cohesion. You now can see how fearful they are of your unity. They are resorting and appealing to everyone to obtain something. May God add their punishment to their lies. [shouts of approval]

At any rate, I, as an official, call upon you, as God calls upon you, to keep up the good work, without giving in to emotions, without thinking that, as the hypocrites intended, may be the Army would be weakened. You must remain strong. This nation supports you. We are all behind you; the clerics are with you. Such a link is unprecedented in any order. Everyone, the clerics, the military, and the people, are totally together. Thanks be to God, this is the situation.

I hope to see more clerics on the battlefronts. I hope to see them serving more, as they do, as it is their duty. As for you, without bothering to give any thought to who I am or who he is [do your duty]. We are all responsible before God. We are all doing our divine duty. Remember, this attitude will safeguard your welfare in this world and the next, God willing.

I do hope that you will bear this in mind when carrying out your task, as defined by law and Islam. You, the corps and the rest, must act as a single arm to safeguard your own prestige, to safeguard Islam, your own country — a country that has now become an example for the entire world. Later, they will join you. They have no choice but to join you. Other countries too will join you. I hope to see the emergence of a revolution, a revolution similar to Iran's, in other parts of the world as well, God willing. I hope you will be successful.

I reiterate, you must not entertain the idea of what is said of the Army. Such utterances were made by the hypocrites in the past. Anyone repeating them would be considered a hypocrite too, for anyone claiming to be a Muslim should realize that the Army must be safeguarded. Any Muslim, anyone interested in this Islamic country, should realize that the Arry is safeguarding Islam, just as the corps and the mobilization are doing. When you unite, then you are turned into a mammoth population against others. God willing, you will demonstrate your might and safeguard your own country and defeat your enemies.

I pray for you, I pray for you every single night, without exception. Not a single night passes without my prayer for you and the Armed Forces. As for those who oppose you, I curse them.May God give you health and success so that you may remain proud for the sake of God and join the community led by the master of martyrs. God bless you all. [end recording]

Jalali on Battlefront Situation

LD231748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] At the end of the seminar of commanders and officials in charge of political and ideological aspects of the main units of the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Defense Minister Colonel Jalali gave a brief interview to a Central News Unit correspondent in Qom about the war and the present situation on the fronts. Referring to the recent seminar of commanders held in Tehran, he said: The appropriate decisions about the war were adopted at the seminar. He added: Our position on the fronts is most excellent. The Ba'thist-Zionist enemy is engaged in a last-ditch effort in the hope that he might find an escape route — which he will fail to find, God willing. This is because our valiant fighters will give him the appropriate answer in the near future.

He also noted the impressive progress made in the defense industries, and added: The present state and the future of the defense industries are extremely optimistic, and examples of that in terms of first lines of production have been communicated to our Islamic homeland's selfless and martyr-nurturing people. In the not too distant future, some very valuable products will be offered to the people.

In conclusion, the defense minister referred to the recent dispatch of convoys of Karbala' marchers from throughout the country and said: The Karbala' marchers reflect the continuation of the mighty movement of the jihad-seeking Basij of Islam whom we have always regarded as our main support. We believe that the Karbala' marchers are the only invincible army in the world. We regard it as our duty to do everything in our power to thank them.

Golpaygani Meets Leaders

LD231936 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, at the end of the seminar of the commanders and the ideological-political officials of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran held in the presence of the president chairman of the Supreme Defense Council in Tehran, the chief of the joint staff, the minister of defense, the commanders of the three forces, and the supervisor of the ideological-political department of the Armed Forces met with Grand Ayatollah Golpaygani last night in Qom.

[illegible] this meeting, the Grand Ayatollah Golpaygani prayed for all the fighters of Islam and expressed his appreciation for the activities of the members of the clergy at the fronts. He also asked the brothers in the army of Islam always to keep God in mind and not to refrain from acting according to the teachings of Islam, because if they are with God, God will also render them assistance in return.

At the end of this meeting, Grand Ayatollah Golpaygani prayed for the health and victory of all the fighters of Islam and beseeched Almighty God to enable these brothers to become the soldiers of the Lord of the Age [the Hidden Imam].

Montazeri Confers With Commanders

LD240929 Tehran IRNA in English 0904 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Qom, Dec. 24, IRNA — Commanders and senior military personnel met and conferred with Ayatollah Hoseyn 'ali Montazeri here Sunday [22 December].

During the meeting, Ayatollah Montazeri said that the Islamic Revolution of Iran had foiled plots hatched by the superpowers to halt progress of the country.

Emphasising importance of ethical, religious and martial training in the Armed Forces, Ayatollah Montazeri urged senior officers to be modest in their contacts with junior personnel while observing discipline.

Meanwhile, commanders of the Armed Forces at the end of their 8-day seminar held in Tehran met Ayatollah Golpaygani here Sunday night.

Referring to the Iraqi-imposed war, Ayatollah Golpaygani said that although the war inflicted heavy losses on Iran, tightened [as received] the ties between the people and the Army.

The groups also met with the head of the assembly of experts Ayatollah 'Ali Meshkini who, too, emphasised unity among the people, the Army, theologians and university students.

Commenting on the recent trip of Iraqi ruler to the Soviet Union, Ayatollah Meshkini said that despite the fact that eastern and western countries have been backing the Baghdad regime in its war against Iran, Iraq has not been able to make any gain because of heroic resistance of Iranian forces.

Commenting on the outcome of the seminar, Defence Minister Colonel Mohammad Hoseyn Jalali said that decisions were made in connection to the war.

He described situation of the Iranian forces in war fronts as "excellent" and added that the Islamic combatants of Iran in a near future will give the necessary response to the Baghdad regime.

He referred to the outstanding achievements of Iran in the field of military industries and added that soon more advanced equipment will be produced.

Khamene'i Visits Mobilization Forces Training Center

LD231401 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Excerpts] President Sayyed 'Ali Khamene'i this morning visited Imam 'Ali garrison to inspect classes for Basij [Mobilization] forces. Training classes are set up for volunteers due to leave for the war fronts, and for training instructors of the Basij forces.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council was briefed on training methods in weaponry familiarization, tactics, demolition, and relief work in chemical, microbial and nuclear warfare situations.

Khamene'i continued his inspection of Imam 'Ali garrison by attending the morning ceremonies of Basij forces and the training instructors of the garrison. Mr Rahmani, the official responsible for the Unit for the Mobilisation of the Oppressed of the Islamic Guards Corps delivered reports on training of relief and assistance groups called Naserin — set up for the purpose of providing relief to people caught in natural hazards or emergencies and any disasters as well as aerial raids by the enemy — and training for the mobilisation forces of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq. The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, noting the successful achievements of the Mobilisation of the Oppressed of the corps in heightening the training standards and capability of Basij forces, stated:

[Announcer] The president, stressing the importance of maximum training for Basij forces said: Today, the enemy senses every dimension of our might; our task today is a decisive and faithful one. The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, alluding to the world arrogance providing weaponry to Iraq, said: The world arrogance is trying to equip our enemy with weaponry and foreign advisers, but our readiness is much more effective and decisive. Our forces and their equipment are provided in spontaneous form and by the efforts of our own people.

Prime Minister Addresses Reconstruction Officials

LD232000 Tehran IRNA in English 1850 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec 23, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi Monday stressed the necessity of strengthening the country's defence capability to protect its vital installations.

He said if Iran's vital installations are subjected to repeated Iraqi attacks, immediate reconstruction must be undertaken in order to prevent further losses.

Speaking to the officials in charge of the Reconstruction Headquarters for War Stricken Provinces here, Musavi said despite all the problems, Iran's officials are still capable of continuing the war and resisting against the enemies.

The officials of the headquarters briefed the prime minister on their 42-month-long activities and said during this period 217,000 volunteer forces have reconstructed over 80,000 residential and commercial units.

People have also provided the headquarters with 940 million dollars during the said period, the officials added.

Velayati Returns From Tripoli, Assesses Talks

LD240748 Tehran IRNA in English 0732 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. IRNA — The minister of foreign affairs, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, arrived here Monday night at the end of his four-day visit to Libya and taking part in the third joint session of the foreign ministers of Syria, Libya and Iran.

Speaking in an interview after arrival in Tehran, Velayati said that the three countries adopted joint stance on regional and international issues. They also stressed the need for expansion of political, trade, industrial and economic relations.

Furthermore, he added, at the end of the session, foreign ministers of the three countries in a letter to secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organisation, called on him to take serious measures to prevent any contact of Islamic countries with the Zionist regime. The letter requested the Islamic Conference Organisation to put the issue in the agenda of its 16th session, scheduled in Morocco next month.

Meanwhile, speaking to IRNA in Tripoli prior to his departure for Tehran, Velayati described outcome of his trip as "highly promising" and added that during the meeting, at the end of which a joint communique was issued, new decisions were made.

One of the measures, he added, was to include economic issues in the talks. Therefore, in the next session scheduled to be held in Tehran next spring, ministers of industries and trade of the three countries will also participate, he said. During the Tehran session, which will be held before meeting of foreign affairs ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement, the three countries will exchange views to adopt a unified stance.

He further said that the Tripoli session was more productive as compared to the previous ones.

The Libyan Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, commenting on the session, told IRNA that it led to positive results. Furthermore, he added, in a meeting between the foreign minister of Iran and Libya mutual relations were discussed.

While in Tripoli, the Iranian delegation, which included Minister of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps Mohsen Rafiqdust, held talks with Libyan officials.

Rafiqdust in a meeting with commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, Monday, discussed cooperation in the field of military industries and issues of mutual interest.

Rafsanjani Calls for Destruction of Iraqi Ba'thists

LD231609 Tehran IRNA in English 1556 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 23, IRNA — Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani Monday described the Ba'th party ruling over Iraq as "disastrously cancerous" for the region, noting that it should be destroyed.

Rafsanjani made the statements in a meeting with officials of the headquarters in charge of renovating and reconstructing the war-hit areas of the country.

The Majlis speaker further expressed hope that all of the war damaged areas would be rebuilt after Iran's Muslim combatants ended the war victoriously.

The Iranian nation is determined to renovate all the regions devastated by the Iraqi aggressors in the course of the war, the speaker said.

He said that despite the mass destruction wreaked by the enemy, the Iranian people are committed to risking their lives, at times under heavy enemy bombardment, to protect their homeland. He noted that the benefits gained by the Iranian people can be measured both in terms of their political and psychological growth, saying that "hardship makes a man strong and strengthens his resolve."

Tehran Reports 'Text' of Agreement With Nicaragua

LD231012 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Following a visit by Nicaraguan Director of Information and Press [Manuel Espinoza Enriquez] to Iran for the purpose of confronting imperialist propaganda and for the maximum expansion of cultural relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Nicaragua, a mutual declaration was signed in Tehran and announced simultaneously in Managua and Tehran.

The text of this declaration signed by the delegation from the Television and Radio Organization of Nicaragua and the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran's managing director is as follows:

The two sides consider the wave of propaganda against the Islamic Revolution of Iran and the popular Sandinist revolution of Nicaragua by world arrogance as unjust and condemn efforts by the imperialists to destroy the humanitarian and lofty values of the two nations.

The two countries have emphasized the need to coordinate and strengthen a common front against the propaganda of world arrogance aimed at global liberation and popular movements and revolutions.

The two sides urge the free press, radio and television of the world to report any cases of human rights violations, terrorism, and violation and disregard of codes and practices of international law, destruction and devastation by U.S. imperialism, and while making efforts to fulfill the same, to condemn such acts.

The two sides welcome expansion of cultural relations between the two countries.

It is noted that Manuel Espinoza traveled to Tehran at the head

of a delegation on Tuesday, 19 Azar [10 Dec], following an invitation by Muhammad Hashemi, the director general of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The delegation visited the production centers of the Voice and Vision and Be'sat transmitter at Kamalabad and also the research and manufacturing center for electronic equipment, TAKTA; the recently commissioned center for satellite projects in Esfahan; and some historical monuments of the city during their 6-day tour.

The Nicaraguan delegation also met and conferred with Prime Minister Musavi, the foreign affairs minister, the cultural and higher education minister, the Islamic guidance minister, and chairman of the foreign affairs commission of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, members of the supervisory council of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as its director general and his deputies, and the supervisor of IRNA. The topics of discussions were mutual understanding and further cooperation.

Buoys To Deter Smugglers, 'Counterrevolutionaries'

LD240757 Tehran IRNA in English 0739 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Dec. 24, IRNA — Iran will control illegal traffic of goods and passengers in the strategic water borders of Hormozgan Province by stationing 50 buoyants and about 150 motorboats in the water way.

Announcing this Monday, the Islamic Revolution's Prosecutor Office of Hormozgan Province added that the measure will prevent annual flow of considerable amount of foreign exchange as well as the flight of counterrevolutionary agents from the country.

It further said that annually over 50,000 people enter or leave the country, legally and illegally, through air and sea borders. Some of these travels are organised by smugglers, counterrevolutionaries and those affiliated to the former regime, the office added.

To counter such illegal acts, water border in Hormozgan Province will be further controlled in future, the announcement said.

To this end, the office further added, the buoyants would be doubled and the patrol motorboats would be increased.

Flight Security Guards Foil Hijack Attempt

LD231709 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] At the same time as the tumultuous participation of the Muslim Iranian ummah in the Karbala' march and their presence in the battlefronts of the war against world blasphemy, in an attempt to overshadow this great movement the agents of world arrogance conspired to hijack an aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran which left Siri Island at 1425 this afternoon for Shiraz. However, as the result of timely action by the flight security guards of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, this conspiracy was foiled and one of the hijackers was killed. During this hijack attempt none of the passengers or crew of the aircraft were harmed, and the aircraft handed safely in Tehran [as heard] airport.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,328

LD231733 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec 23, IRNA — Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts Sunday killed or wounded at least 50 Iraqi troops and destroyed seven mortar launchers and several vehicles and bunkers of the enemy, according to a military communique published by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Monday.

In its Communique No 2328, the Command says that the Iranian Muslim combatants opened fire on Iraqi positions in the western fronts Sunday, killing or wounding over 10 Iraqi soldiers, blasting an enemy munitions dump and destroying six bunkers, three observation posts and one tank of the enemy.

Two Iraqi patrol units who were trying to infiltrate Iranian positions in these fronts Sunday were forced to flee by Iranian artillery fire while sustaining casualties, reports the Joint Staff.

In the southern fronts, the communique syas, Iraqi positions came under heavy artillery fire on Sunday, resulting in a number of Iraqi casualties and destruction of several enemy vehicles.

Iran's Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in the regions overlooking Abadan Saturday, inflicting considerable casualties and losses on the enemy and halting their engineering operations, according to the communique.

Meanwhile, long-range artillery fire on the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province over the past 24 hours damaged two houses in the city.

Revolutionaries Attack Iraqi Troops in Halabjah Region

LD221809 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 22 Dec 85

[Text] In a severe clash between the Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries and the Iraqi regime's forces in the Halabjah region, one of the Iraqi regime's trucks was destroyed and at least 13 of its troops were killed. According to the report on the Central News Unit, the Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries also succeeded in blocking the road to an Iraqi regime's unit and then attacked it with light weapons and hand grenades.

Tehran Reports Afghan Mujahidin Operations

GF231324 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries attacked a Soviet and governmental military convoy in (Bala Majnun) and Badghis Province northwest of Afghanistan. This resulted in the killing

of 10 troops and the destruction of a tank. Some 15 armoured vehicles were destroyed and a number of Karmal forces were killed and wounded during a number of attacks in the past 2 weeks in Oruzgan and Helmand in the south of Afghanistan. The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries also downed a fighter plane of the Afghan regime while it was shelling the residential areas of the Muslims in (Islamdara) district in Qandahar Province south of Afghanistan and arrested its pilot.